1 - Mr. C. D. DeLoach
1 - Mr. Mohr
1 - Mr. Conrad

May 17, 1967

The Attorney General

1 - Mr. Wick
1 - Mr. Rosen
1 - Mr. W. C. Sullivan
1 - Mr. T. J. Smith
1 - Mr. W. A. Branigan
1 - Mr. Lenihan

Director, FBI

ASSASSINATION OF PRESIDENT
JOHN FITZGERALD KENNEDY
NOVEMBER 22, 1963,
DALLAS, TEXAS

The New Orleans "States-Item" newspaper for May 12, 1967, carried an article entitled "Coded Ruby Phone Listing in Oswald, Shaw Notes--DA." A copy of this article is attached. The article reports that New Orleans District Attorney James C. Garrison claims that the address books of Clay Shaw and Lee Harvey Oswald listed the same digits, 19106, concerning a Post Office Box in Dallas. Garrison further claims that by interposing the digits and subtracting the number 1300, the result was telephone number WHitehall 1-3301, which Garrison identified as Jack Ruby's unpublished telephone number in Dallas in 1963.

For your information, on April 24, 1967, this Bureau received an inquiry from Senator Russell Long of Louisiana which appears to be related to this particular matter. Senator Long, in his contact with this Bureau, stated that he had been specifically requested by New Orleans District Attorney Garrison to contact the FBI and determine to whom Dallas Post Office Box 19106 was rented at the time of the assassination of President Kennedy. No information was furnished to Senator Long but he was referred to the Department of Justice or to the National Archives of the United States.

The number of current interest in Garrison's probe appears on page 57 of Lee Harvey Oswald's address book. A copy of this page is attached. Contrary to Garrison's claim, this notation was contained among the number of items in the Russian language which appear in Oswald's address book and is not Post Office Box 19106 but instead is translated as DD19106. All of the items contained on page 57 of Oswald's address book appear to have been made by him during his stay in Russia from 1959 to June, 1962.

ENCLOSURE

(15)

ENCLOSURE

MAIL ROOM TELETYPE UNIT

MAILED 2
MAY 17 1967
COMM-FBI

NOT RECORDED
SEE NOTE PAGE FOUR

ORIGINAL FILED IN

Tolson
DeLoach
Mohr
Wick
Casper
Callahan
Conrad
Felt
Gale
Rosen
Sullivan
Tavel
Trotter
Tele. Room
Holmes
Gandy

Section 8

The Attorney General

For example, among the items listed on page 57 is a reference to OVIR which is the Department of Visas and Registration in Moscow. A telephone number listed under this particular entry, K-40000, was listed to the Moscow City Executive Committee. Another reference on this page is to the Hotel Cosmhino in Moscow. On December 4, 1963, when questioned about this item, Marina Oswald, wife of Lee Harvey Oswald, informed our Agents that she and her husband stayed at the Hotel Cosmhino for a few days prior to their departure from the Soviet Union in 1962.

Three other items appearing on page 57 appear to be telephone numbers DD19106, DD10206 or DD10306 and D19107.

During the course of our investigation of the assassination, we made available to the Central Intelligence Agency (CIA), for analysis, a copy of the address book of Lee Harvey Oswald. In connection with the telephone number, DD19106, CIA determined there was no telephone listing in the then current Moscow telephone directory for such number. However, there was a listing for telephone number D19106 which was listed to a railroad station restaurant in Moscow. It appears possible that Lee Harvey Oswald, in his comparative unfamiliarity with the Russian language, could have erroneously copied the double "D" as a prefix to a Moscow telephone listing.

It appears that Garrison is again attempting to introduce gimmicks into his investigation of the assassination to support his claim that Clay Shaw was involved in a conspiracy with Lee Harvey Oswald and Jack Ruby. The telephone number Whitehall 1-3301 is publicly identified in the Warren Commission Report as an unpublished telephone number of Jack Ruby. This is Commission Exhibit number 2300. Although Garrison has come up with Jack Ruby's telephone number in his so-called coding procedures, it is recognized that Garrison could have taken any number in Oswald's address book and by adding or subtracting certain digits to or from such number could have arrived at the same result.

We have carefully examined and analyzed Garrison's decoding procedure as set forth by news media. Garrison's coding system appears to involve a complex manipulation of two letters and five digits which Garrison misinterprets as "PO 19106"

The Attorney General

and Garrison arbitrarily changes by adding telephone dial equivalents for "J" and "O," or 7 plus 6 equals 13. Garrison then arbitrarily splits this 13 into two segments of 9 and 4 which he recognizes on the telephone dial to "WH."

In a similar arbitrary fashion, Garrison changes 19103 by rearrangement into 10301 and then subtracts 1300 from this rearranged number to obtain 19001. Combining the two manipulations, he comes up with "WH 1-9001" which was Jack Ruby's telephone number. Garrison's purported decipherment is an arbitrary manipulation of letters and numbers to arrive at a predetermined conclusion and no technical validation for it can be found.

We recontacted CIA on May 15, 1967, to ascertain if CIA possesses any information which would shed additional light on Garrison telephone number WH19103. CIA has informed us that it possesses no additional information in this particular matter.

With respect to the notation appearing in Clay Shaw's address book as noted in the enclosed newspaper article, please be advised that this Bureau has never examined Clay Shaw's personal effects nor have we investigated or interviewed Clay Shaw in connection with the assassination of President Kennedy. We recognize that there is a possibility that Garrison may be manufacturing evidence and, since he has had Shaw's effects in his possession for several weeks, he or a member of his staff could have inserted a fraudulent entry into Shaw's address book.

In this connection, your attention is called to my letter of May 3, 1967, which set forth data volunteered to this Bureau by Mr. Hugh Aynesworth, correspondent for "Newsweek" magazine. On page two of a memorandum which was attached to my letter of May 3, 1967, it is reported that Mr. Aynesworth alleged that one John Cancler, a notorious burglar, had told attorneys of Clay Shaw that he was released from jail in a "deal" provided he would enter Shaw's residence and "plant" something. Aynesworth further reported that Garrison had resorted to intimidation and bribes in order to develop favorable testimony for his investigation.

Enclosures - 2

The Attorney General

1 - Mr. Harold Barefoot Sanders, Jr. (Enclosures - 2)
Assistant Attorney General

1 - Mr. Fred M. Vinson, Jr. (Enclosures - 2)
Assistant Attorney General

1 - Mr. J. Walter Yeagley (Enclosures - 2)
Assistant Attorney General

NOTE:

See memorandum Branigan to Sullivan dated 5/16/67, prepared by RRL:jmk, and also memorandum Branigan to Sullivan dated 5/14/67 prepared by WAB/RRL:lag.